



VISION STATEMENT:

"The Magic City: A diverse, welcoming community where people prosper and business succeeds."

**COUNCIL ACTION SUMMARY
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

AGENDA

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MARCH 27, 2023

5:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Cole

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Cole

INVOCATION: Councilmember Joy

ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmember Kendra Shaw, Ward I
Councilmember Ed Gulick, Ward I
Councilmember Jennifer Owen, Ward II
Councilmember Denise Joy, Ward III
Councilmember Danny Choriki, Ward III
Councilmember Daniel Tidswell, Ward IV
Councilmember Pam Purinton, Ward IV
Councilmember Mike Boyett, Ward V
Councilmember Tom Rupsis, Ward V
Mayor William Cole

Absent/

Excused: Councilmember Roy Neese, Ward II

Staff

Present: Kevin Iffland, Assistant City Administrator
Gina Dahl, City Attorney
Denise Bohlman, City Clerk
Wyeth Friday, Planning Director
Nicole Cromwell, Zoning Coordinator
Mike Pigg, Parks Superintendent
Debi Meling, Public Works Director
Jeff Roach, Aviation and Transit Director
Rich St. John, Police Chief

MINUTES:

- February 27, 2023 – **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**
- March 13, 2023 - **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**

COURTESIES:

- Mayor Cole acknowledged Rob Rogers with the Billings Gazette who was taking another position and introduced his replacement, Amy Nile.
- Mayor Cole announced that the USS Billings Blue and Yellow teams were replaced by the Silver team and the ship was doing well.
- Councilmember Purinton asked for an update on Detective Yarina's condition. Police Chief St. John reported he was received from the hospital and was doing well.

PROCLAMATIONS: Week of the Young Child, April 1-7

COUNCIL REPORTS:

- Councilmember Joy reported that the Local Affairs Subcommittee met to compile a number of questions about how best to address the expansion of the prison system. The Subcommittee would extend an opportunity to the School District be involved.
- Councilmember Purinton reported that the Legislative Subcommittee met and narrowed down several bills of concern and mentioned that some Council members would be testifying during hearings.
- Councilmember Choriki attending meetings regarding traffic safety to reduce the amount of collisions through education and rebooting the Family Violence Task Force.
- Councilmember Rupsis reported from the DBP Board that it would recommend an increase to TIF grant for the Old Town Flats project due to all the increases in construction costs. The new SB 523 bill would significantly curtail the way TIF districts operate and hinder local economics. If the bill gained traction there would need to be a large Council presence to testify against it.
- Councilmember Owen reported the Budget Subcommittee would meet every other week and was in high gear. Reviewing Council and staff budget amendments. Mentioned it might be time for more Council working committees to work on the alignment of the budget with public safety goals.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS - ~~CHRIS KUKULSKI~~ KEVIN IFFLAND, Assistant City Administrator

- Reminded Council of the Planning Retreat on March 31st and April 1st.
- Reported there were no exparte communications concerning items on the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT on "NON-PUBLIC HEARING" Agenda Items: 1 ONLY. Speaker sign-in required. (Comments are limited to three (3) minutes or as set by the Mayor. Please sign the roster at the cart located at the back of the Council chambers or at the podium. Comments on items listed as public hearing items will be heard ONLY during the designated public hearing time for each respective item. For items not on this agenda, public comment will be taken at the end of the agenda.)

- Steve Shandera, 1109 N. 31st Street, Billings, Montana, thanked Council for considering the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and encouraging Billings citizens to be active.

1. CONSENT AGENDA -- Separations: 1E, 1F

Councilmember Purinton separated Consent Agenda Item 1E for discussion.

Councilmember Boyett separated Consent Agenda Item 1F for discussion.

A. Bid Awards:

- 1. Reconstruction of the Airport's Commercial Aircraft Ramp - Schedule IV. (Opened 3/7/23)
Recommend Knife River Construction. APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**

2. **W.O. 23-10: Grand Avenue and 48th Street West Traffic Signal Improvements.** (Opened 3/27/2023) Recommend Montana Lines, Inc. **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**
- B. **Contract** with Tyler Technologies, Inc. for Tax-Wise software for the Finance Department. **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**
- C. **Purchase** eight (8) Neptune meter interface units for Public Works Distribution and Collection from Northwest Pipe Fittings. **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**
- D. **Purchase** 2 automated side loader refuse trucks for the Solid Waste Division from Solid Waste Systems. **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**
- E. **Jerry Metcalf Foundation Grant Application** to provide local match for "Mobilize the MAGIC City" Project. **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**
- F. **Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant Application** to the Parks and Recreation Department for the Stagecoach Trail. **APPROVED 8-2, OWEN AND BOYETT OPPOSED, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**
- G. **Donation** from Albertsons Companies Intermountain Division for Billings Police Department and Billings Fire Department. **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**
- H. **Donation** for wildland firefighting PPE (personal protective equipment) for the Billings Fire Department. **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**
- I. **Final Plat** of The Timbers Subdivision. ***Quasi-Judicial** **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**
- J. **Final Plat** of Legacy Subdivision, Amended. ***Quasi-Judicial** **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**
- K. **Final Plat** of Legacy Subdivision, 2nd Filing. ***Quasi-Judicial** **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**
- L. **Bills for the Weeks of:**
1. February 21, 2023 - **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**
 2. February 27, 2023 - **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**

REGULAR AGENDA:

2. **PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING ORDINANCE FOR ZONE CHANGE 1022:** located at 630 Logan Lane. Zoning Commission recommends approval and adoption of the 10 criteria. ***Quasi-Judicial** **APPROVED 10-0, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**
3. **PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING ORDINANCE** amending Billings, Montana City Code, Section 18-204, prohibiting weapons, firearms and explosives at City Council proceedings. Staff recommends approval. **APPROVED 7-3, CHORIKI, PURINTON AND TIDSWELL OPPOSED, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**

PUBLIC COMMENT on "NON-AGENDA ITEMS". Speaker Sign-in required. (Restricted to ONLY items not on this printed agenda. Comments are limited to 3 minutes or as set by the Mayor. Please sign the roster at the cart located at the back of the Council chambers or at the podium.)

COUNCIL INITIATIVES:

Shaw moved that Council communicate its support of Substance Abuse Connect (SAC) to the County Commissioners to continue funding the County's funding to the end of the first year of the contract, seconded by Joy. **APPROVED 9-1, BOYETT OPPOSED, NEESE ABSENT/EXCUSED**

ADJOURN: 7:42 P.M.

